

## **The Georgia Medical Board Supports Flu Vaccination**

The Composite State Board of Medical Examiners (CSBME) strongly supports the widespread availability of flu vaccinations.

Under both Federal and Georgia law influenza vaccine is considered to be a dangerous drug and Georgia law requires a valid patient-specific prescription. This law has been in effect for many years. Blanket protocols have never been permissible under Georgia law.

At the request of the Pharmacy Board, the CSBME met with representatives of the Pharmacy Board at its August 8, 2008 meeting to discuss the issue of influenza vaccinations in Georgia. The Board recognizes that widespread availability of the vaccine is a valid public health concern and that blanket physician protocols authorizing pharmacists to dispense flu vaccinations may improve access. The Medical Board is committed to finding a legal solution to increasing the availability of the influenza vaccine.